are going to bear the expenditure in respect of these courts. The response is not very good; it is not encouraging. But we are awaiting their response and after that we will consider it.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Question No. 228. (*Interruptions*)

श्री वीरेन्द्र वर्मा : दो आदमियों ने प्रश्न पूछा था कि क्या इन क्रिमिनल्स में से किसी को जेल भेजा गया था ?

MR. CHAIRMAN: Mr. Verma, I have followed the answer very closely. He said that there have been convictions in 70 cases, but I do not know whether in these convictions, fine has been imposed or some persons have also been sent to jail. The hon. Minister can give the information, if he has it.

SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI: I do not have the detailed information. It is difficult to get the information because these cases are spread throughout the country.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next question.

*228. [*The questioner (Shri Suresh Pachouri) was absent. For answer,* vide *col.* 42-43 infra]

Provision of civil amenities in Mhow Cantonment area

*229. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that the condition of roads, drainage and other civil amenities in Mhow cantonment area is pitiable and because of the lack of resources, the authorities are not in a position to do much in this regard;

(b) if so, what are the details of the budgetary allocations made for the purpose; and

(c) whether Government propose to give any special grant-in-aid to Mhow Cantonment Board for bringing about some improvement in the civic amenities?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI ARUN SINGH): (a) to (c) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) to (c) Civil Administration of cantonment is run by Cantonment Boards. Cantonment Boards are set up under the Cantonment Act, 1924 and function as autonomous bodies like other municipal corporations/ committees. Cantonment Board, Mhow has spent Rs. 1,26,72,897 from the year 1981 to February, 1987 for improving the civic amenities of the area. Details of this expenditure are given below:

Head	Total
Buildings	9,43,417
Roads	21,55,105
Drains	5,57,959
Water Supply	3,39,394
Street Light	6,33,883
Hospital	22,97,977
Public conveniences	87,45,162
TOTAL :	1,56,72,897

This expenditure was met by the Cantonment Board from its internal resources, grants-in-aid given by the Government to cover the deficit budget of the Cantonment Board, special grants-in-aid given by the Government for developmental projects and the service charges paid to the Cantonment Board in lieu of rates and taxes on Central Government properties in Cantonment area.

Government is aware that the civic amenities in Mhow Cantonment require further improvement. Further special grants-in-aid is subject to availibility of funds.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, Mhow is one of our most important military training centres. In fact, three of our most prestigious training institutions are located there. Just about five miles away from Mhow, a massive industrial complex, Pitampur, also known as the Detroit of India is coming up. All this has put a lot of pressure on Mhow town. The population is about a lakh now. From the statement which has been attached to the answer, we find that on an average, we are spending just about Rs. 20 lakhs per year in this town. I think, this is a pittance. I would like to know, in view of the fact that Army is going to spend a lot of money on the expansion of their training institutions—in fact, several crores of rupees—why can't a fixed percentage from that be spent on Mhow town so that at least the roads and other basic civic amenities are made available to its citizens?

SHRI ARUN SINGH: Sir, may I correct hon. Member's information? May I also say that he knows more about Mhow than I know because he was Collector, Indore? I would like to point out that the expenditure is not Rs. 20 lakhs a year. The expenditure for 1986-87 is approximately Rs. 60 lakhs. In the last three years, it was approximately Rs. 160 odd lakhs. The average is considerably more than Rs. 20 lakhs.

MR. CHAIRMAN: He was referring to roads.

SHRI ARUN SINGH: Sir, the hon. Member is fully aware that the Cantonment Boards are autonomous organisations. They have four types of funds, those that they generate internally, grant-in-aid given by the Government to cover deficit budgeting, special grants-in-aid given by the Government to cover developmental projects and service charges which are paid by Government in lieu of rent rates and taxes for government properties in the cantonment area. There are 62 cantonments in the country and we are spending approximately, rounded off figure, of the order of Rs. 20 crores a year.

One of the principal problems in cantonments is that, of these four classes of funds that the Cantonment Board has at its disposal, the primary source, internal generation of fund, has become a negligible quantity. One of the reasons for that, of course, is that they do not wish to raise their rent rates and consequentially the subsidized element either through the process of ordinary grants-in-aid covering deficits or special grants-in-aid covering special projects is increasing disproportionately.

Nonetheless, the fact of the matter is that the cantonments must run and the cantonments must run well. Basic facilities and amenities to the citizens must be provided and I can only assure the Member that every effort will be made on our part to do so.

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: An ancillary problem to what I have stated in my first supplementary relates to the compulsory acquisition of land in and around Mhow by the army for their expansion. The result is that the civilian population which is about a lakh now has nowhere to go. Their number is increasing. There is a great influx of people into this town because of the increased army training activities and because of the industrial activities. So, my question is, will the Government at least consider leaving some land apart for the civilian population to meet their requirements for at least five to six years hence?

MR. CHAIRMAN: That question can't arise out of this. The main question relates to the condition of roads and civil amenities and so on. So, it

does not arise out of this. Yes, Mr. Jaswant Singh.

SHRI JASWANT SINGH: Mr. Chairman, would you permit supplementaries on the problems of cantonments as such or only on roads and civic amenities?

MR. CHAIRMAN: You know, I have already disallowed Mr. Jogi's question.

Yes. Mr. Radhakishan Malaviya.

श्री राधाकिशन मालवीय : मान्यवर, इस प्रश्न के संबंध में मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह कहना चाहता हूं कि महू छावनी हमारे देश की बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण छावनी एरिया है । इसके क्षेत्रफल को बढ़ाने के लिए महू के आस-पास के कुछ गांवों की जमीन इस समय अधिग्रहीत की जा रही है । मैं माननीय मंत्री जी से यह जानना चाहता हूं कि जो भूमि किसानों की अधिग्रहीत की जा रही है उसका मुआवजा किस दर पर दिया जाएगा एवं जिन गांवों को वहां से उठाया जा रहा है, उन गांव वालों को बसाने के लिए सरकार ने कौन-सी योजना बनाई है ?

श्री अरूण सिंह : जहां तक एक्वीजीशन का सवाल है . . .

MR. CHAIRMAN: I am not allowing any question on acquisition because that part of the question does not relate to roads and amenities. If you have anything to add, you may do so.

SHRI ARUN SINGH: He has asked about acquisition and compensation to be paid.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Next Question.

Gold and silver prices at dizzy Heights

*230. SHRI N. E. BALARAM:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:†

Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the prices of gold and silver have touched dizzy heights recently;

(b) if so, what are the current prices of these metals and who do these compare with the prices during the last five years;

(c) what are the reasons for the recent spurt in their prices; and

(d) whether Government are taking any steps to stabilise the prices of these metals and if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The average prices of gold and silver in Bombay and in international markets during the years 1982, 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986 and as on 27-2-1987 are given below:

Year	Gold (Rs. per 10 gms.)		Silver (Rs. per kg.)	
	Bombay	London	Bombay	London
1982	1708	1149	2673	2422
1983	1821	1381	3422	3726
1984	1958	1312	3514	2957
1985	2106	1261	3880	2439
1986	2211	1392	4106	2295
27-2-1987	2616	1705	4594	2300

†The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Shri Chaturanan Mishra.